



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/052,579	01/18/2002	Erick M. Griffin	RSW920010149US1	7352

7590 03/18/2005

Gerald R. Woods
IBM Corporation T81/503
PO Box 12195
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

EXAMINER

BONSHOCK, DENNIS G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2173

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/052,579

Applicant(s)

GRIFFIN, ERICK M.

Examiner

Dennis G. Bonshock

Art Unit

2173

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 November 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 16-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 and 16-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Final Rejection

Response to Amendment

1. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed on record in the file: Amendment as received on 11-22-2004.

2. Claims 1-24 have been examined.

Status of Claims:

3. Claims 1-8, 10, 12, 16-21, 23 and 24, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Richards et al., patent #5,179,654, hereinafter Richards.

4. Claims 9, 11, 13, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Richards and Java 2 Platform SE v1.3.1: Class ListResourceBundle, hereinafter JavaLRB.

5. Claims 14 and 15 have been canceled by the applicant.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-8, 10, 12, 16-21, 23 and 24, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Richards et al., patent #5,179,654, hereinafter Richards.

8. With regard to claim 1, which teaches a method of displaying data for selection by a user, comprising steps of: providing a plurality of name pairs each of the name pairs comprising a name key and an associated name value; providing a plurality of

Art Unit: 2173

string pairs, each of the string pairs comprising a string key and an associated string value; providing a plurality of key pairs, each of the key pairs comprising a first key and a second key, each of the first keys pointing to one of the name keys and each of the second keys pointing to one of the string keys, such that the name value associated with the pointed-to name key is thus associated with the string value associated with the pointed-to string key; Richards teaches, in column 1, line 60 through column 4, line 48, a system for displaying help information where upon selection of an item from a list relating to one or more tasks, a help text screen is displayed in a separate window. Richards further teaches, in column 3, lines 17-28, column 9, lines 1-10, 11-24, and in figures 9 and 10, a system of keys linking the initial screen (Help Index Table) with the resultant help display (Help Text Table), each key in the initial screen having a corresponding key associated with it in the resultant help display. With regard to claim 1, further teaching accessing the string value associated with the selected name value by using a particular one of the key pairs, wherein the first key in the particular one of the key pairs points to the name key with which the selected name value is associated and the second key in the particular one of the key pairs points to the string key with which the string value to be accessed is associated; Richards teaches, in column 2, lines 14-23, column 3, lines 17-28, column 9, lines 1-10, and in figures 9 and 10, upon selection of a first item a group of keys are used to link it to its corresponding subset of information which is to be provided in it's own panel. Richards further teaches, in column 10, lines 36-52, a branching from Help Text words in to destination text, where selection of such a word with a pointer cause the key to the current help text to be

applied with the selected word to a Help Text Branch table, where for each selectable word the Help Text Branch table contains a Destination Key which is the key to Corresponding Help Test in the Help Text Table.

9. With regard to claims 2 and 17, which teach the selected name value (particular one) being displayed as a graphical icon, Richards teaches, in column 4, lines 11-15, the map entries including icons.
10. With regard to claims 3 and 18, which teach the selected name value (particular one) being displayed as a text string, Richards teaches, in the abstract and in column 2, lines 2-24, and the first item being text.
11. With regard to claims 4, which teaches the displayed portion is displayed as an ordered list, Richards teaches, in column 9, lines 25-37, the items being in list form.
12. With regard to claims 5 and 20, which teaches the ordered list being an outline, Richards teaches, in column 9, lines 25-37, in column 2, lines 12-24, and in column 6, lines 30-42, the ordered list being a subset of all the information available.
13. With regard to claims 6 and 19, which teach the ordered list being an ordered tree, Richards teaches, in column 9, lines 25-37, in column 8, lines 16-24, and in figures 9 and 10, a tree structure for providing the ordered list.
14. With regard to claims 7 and 21, which teach the located string object being a text string, Richards teaches, in column 2, lines 25-48, the located item being a text string.
15. With regard to claim 8, which teaches the data structure being a resource bundle, Richards teaches, in column 9, lines 25-37, the data structure being a resource bundle.

16. With regard to claim 10, which teaches a method for displaying textual help information through a graphical user interface ("GUI") to a user, comprising steps of: providing a data structure comprising a first array containing topic pairs, each of the topic pairs comprising a topic key and an associated topic text string and a second array containing text pairs each of the text pairs comprising a text key and an associated text string; providing a plurality of key pairs, each of the key pairs comprising a first key and a second key, each of the first keys pointing to one of the topic keys and each of the second keys pointing to one of the text keys such that the topic text string associated with the pointed to topic key is thus associated with the text string associated with the pointed to text key; Richards teaches, in column 1, line 60 through column 4, line 48, a system for displaying help information where upon selection of an item from a list relating to one or more tasks, a help text screen is displayed in a separate window. Richards further teaches, in column 3, lines 17-28, column 9, lines 1-10, 11-24, and in figures 9 and 10, a system of keys linking the initial screen (Help Index Table) with the resultant help display (Help Text Table), each key in the initial screen having a corresponding key associated with it in the resultant help display. With regard to claim 10, further teaching displaying a user interface having a first interactive panel and a second interactive panel, Richards further teaches, in column 2, lines 14-23 and column 5, lines 44-52, a system in which the initial items are selected from one screen prompting a second screen to display the related help data, where the screens are presented as panels on a physical display. With regard to claim 10, further teaching displaying within the first interactive panel, for selection by a user, at least a portion of

Art Unit: 2173

the topic text strings, Richards teaches, in column 2, lines 14-18, a set of first items being presented for user selection and in column 10, lines 36-52, a branching from Help Text words in to destination text, where selection of such a word with a pointer cause the key to the current help text to be applied with the selected word to a Help Text Branch table. With regard to claim 10, further teaching response to selection of a particular topic text string from the displayed portion introspecting through the plurality of key pairs to locate the text string associated with the selected topic text string and displaying the located text string within the second interactive panel, Richards teaches, in column 2, lines 14-23, column 3, lines 17-28, column 9, lines 1-10, and in figures 9 and 10, upon selection of a first item a group of keys are used to link it to its corresponding subset of information which is to be provided in it's own panel. Richards further teaches, in column 10, lines 36-52, a branching from Help Text words in to destination text, where selection of such a word with a pointer cause the key to the current help text to be applied with the selected word to a Help Text Branch table, where for each selectable word the Help Text Branch table contains a Destination Key which is the key to Corresponding Help Test in the Help Text Table.

17. With regard to claim 12, which teaches a computer program product for accessing textual data, the computer program product embodied on one or more computer readable media and comprising: computer readable code comprising a set of topic pairs, each of the topic pairs comprising a topic key and an associated topic text string and a set of test pairs each of the text pairs comprising a test key and an associated text string; providing a set of key pairs, each of the key pairs comprising a

first key and a second key, each of the first keys pointing to one of the topic keys and each of the second keys pointing to one of the text keys such that the topic text string associated with the pointed to topic key is thus associated with the text string associated with the pointed to text key; Richards teaches, in column 1, line 60 through column 4, line 48, a system for displaying help information where upon selection of an item from a list relating to one or more tasks, a help text screen is displayed in a separate window. Richards further teaches, in column 3, lines 17-28, column 9, lines 1-10, 11-24, and in figures 9 and 10, a system of keys linking the initial screen (Help Index Table) with the resultant help display (Help Text Table), each key in the initial screen having a corresponding key associated with it in the resultant help display. With regard to claim 12, further teaching displaying a user interface having a first interactive panel and a second interactive panel, Richards further teaches, in column 2, lines 14-23 and column 5, lines 44-52, a system in which the initial items are selected from one screen prompting a second screen to display the related help data, where the screens are presented as panels on a physical display. With regard to claim 12, further teaching displaying within the first interactive panel, for selection by a user, at least a portion of the topic text strings, Richards teaches, in column 2, lines 14-18, a set of first items being presented for user selection and in column 10, lines 36-52, a branching from Help Text words in to destination text, where selection of such a word with a pointer cause the key to the current help text to be applied with the selected word to a Help Text Branch table. With regard to claim 12, further teaching in response to selection of a particular topic text string from the displayed portion introspecting through the plurality

of key pairs to locate the text string associated with the selected topic text string and displaying the located text string within the second interactive panel, Richards teaches, in column 2, lines 14-23, column 3, lines 17-28, column 9, lines 1-10, and in figures 9 and 10, upon selection of a first item a group of keys are used to link it to its corresponding subset of information which is to be provided in it's own panel. Richards further teaches, in column 10, lines 36-52, a branching from Help Text words in to destination text, where selection of such a word with a pointer cause the key to the current help text to be applied with the selected word to a Help Text Branch table, where for each selectable word the Help Text Branch table contains a Destination Key which is the key to Corresponding Help Test in the Help Text Table.

18. With regard to claim 16, With regard to claim 16, which teaches a system for displaying data for selection by a user, comprising: means for providing a data structure comprising a set of topic pairs, each of the topic pairs comprising a topic key and an associated topic text string and a set of test pairs each of the text pairs comprising a test key and an associated text string; means for providing a set of key pairs, each of the key pairs comprising a first key and a second key, each of the first keys pointing to one of the topic keys and each of the second keys pointing to one of the text keys such that the topic text string associated with the pointed to topic key is thus associated with the text string associated with the pointed to text key; Richards teaches, in column 1, line 60 through column 4, line 48, a system for displaying help information where upon selection of an item from a list relating to one or more tasks, a help text screen is displayed in a separate window. Richards further teaches, in column 3, lines 17-28,

Art Unit: 2173

column 9, lines 1-10, 11-24, and in figures 9 and 10, a system of keys linking the initial screen (Help Index Table) with the resultant help display (Help Text Table), each key in the initial screen having a corresponding key associated with it in the resultant help display. With regard to claim 16, further teaching means for displaying a user interface having a first interactive panel and a second interactive panel, Richards further teaches, in column 2, lines 14-23 and column 5, lines 44-52, a system in which the initial items are selected from one screen prompting a second screen to display the related help data, where the screens are presented as panels on a physical display. With regard to claim 16, further teaching displaying within the first interactive panel, for selection by a user, at least a portion of the topic text strings, Richards teaches, in column 2, lines 14-18, a set of first items being presented for user selection and in column 10, lines 36-52, a branching from Help Text words in to destination text, where selection of such a word with a pointer cause the key to the current help text to be applied with the selected word to a Help Text Branch table. With regard to claim 16, further teaching in response to selection of a particular topic text string from the displayed portion introspecting through the plurality of key pairs to locate the text string associated with the selected topic text string and means for displaying the located text string within the second interactive panel, Richards teaches, in column 2, lines 14-23, column 3, lines 17-28, column 9, lines 1-10, and in figures 9 and 10, upon selection of a first item a group of keys are used to link it to its corresponding subset of information which is to be provided in it's own panel. Richards further teaches, in column 10, lines 36-52, a branching from Help Text words in to destination text, where selection of such a word with a pointer cause

Art Unit: 2173

the key to the current help text to be applied with the selected word to a Help Text Branch table, where for each selectable word the Help Text Branch table contains a Destination Key which is the key to Corresponding Help Test in the Help Text Table.

19. With regard to claim 23, which teaches further teaching means for displaying a user interface having a first interactive panel and a second interactive panel, Richards further teaches, in column 2, lines 14-23 and column 5, lines 44-52, a system in which the initial items are selected from one screen prompting a second screen to display the related help data, where the screens are presented as panels on a physical display.

With regard to claim 23, further teaching displaying within the first interactive panel, for selection by a user, at least a portion of the name values, Richards teaches, in column 2, lines 14-18, a set of first items being presented for user selection and in column 10, lines 36-52, a branching from Help Text words in to destination text, where selection of such a word with a pointer cause the key to the current help text to be applied with the selected word to a Help Text Branch table. With regard to claim 23, further teaching in response to selection of a particular name value from the displayed portion introspecting through the plurality of key pairs to locate the text string associated with the selected topic text string and displaying the located text string within the second interactive panel, Richards teaches, in column 2, lines 14-23, column 3, lines 17-28, column 9, lines 1-10, and in figures 9 and 10, upon selection of a first item a group of keys are used to link it to its corresponding subset of information which is to be provided in it's own panel. Richards further teaches, in column 10, lines 36-52, a branching from Help Text words in to destination text, where selection of such a word with a pointer cause

the key to the current help text to be applied with the selected word to a Help Text Branch table, where for each selectable word the Help Text Branch table contains a Destination Key which is the key to Corresponding Help Test in the Help Text Table.

20. With regard to claim 24, which teaches the first keys being identical to its pointed to name key and each of the second keys being identical to its pointed to string key, Richards further teaches, in column 10, lines 36-52, a branching from Help Text words in to destination text, where selection of such a word with a pointer cause the key to the current help text to be applied with the selected word to a Help Text Branch table, where for each selectable word the Help Text Branch table contains a Destination Key which is the key to the Corresponding Help Test in the Help Text Table.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

21. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

22. Claims 9, 11, 13, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Richards and Java 2 Platform SE v1.3.1: Class ListResourceBundle, hereinafter JavaLRB.

23. With regard to claims 9, 11, 13, and 22, Richards teaches a system for using keys to link a first and a second object across panels in a user interface, but doesn't teach the resource bundle being a Java ListResourceBundle. JavaLRB teaches a system for providing an array where each item in the array is a pair of objects the first

element being a string key, and the second being a value associated with that key, similar to that of Richards, but further teaches the system being implemented with the Java ListResourceBundle (see page 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Richards and JavaLRB before him at the time the invention was made to modify the linking system of Richards to be implemented with the Java ListResourceBundle. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this functionality is built in to the Java ListResourceBundle class.

Response to Arguments

24. The arguments filed on 11-22-2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Reasons set forth below.

25. The applicants' argue that Richards teaches key pairs.

26. In response, the examiner respectfully submits that Richards teaches, in column 2, lines 14-23, column 3, lines 17-28, column 9, lines 1-10, and in figures 9 and 10, upon selection of a first item a group of keys are used to link it to its corresponding subset of information which is to be provided in it's own panel. Richards further teaches, in column 10, lines 36-52, a branching from Help Text words in to destination text, where selection of such a word with a pointer cause the key to the current help text to be applied with the selected word to a Help Text Branch table, where for each selectable word the Help Text Branch table contains a Destination Key which is the key to Corresponding Help Test in the Help Text Table. These key pairs are used to establish connections between linked data.

27. The applicants' argue that Richards teaches a first key, from a key pair, that points to a key from a different plurality of pairs, while a second key from that key pair points to a key from yet another plurality of pairs.

28. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e. while a second key from that key pair points to a key from yet another plurality of pairs) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Conclusion

29. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

30. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

Art Unit: 2173

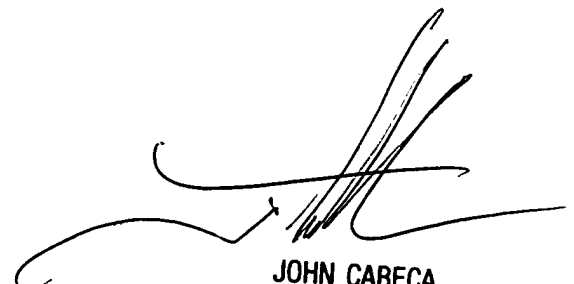
the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

31. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dennis G. Bonshock whose telephone number is (571) 272-4047. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

32. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

33. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

3-8-05
dgb



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER